

Emergency Rule Review – ERR20-056
Legislative Service Office

AGENCY Wyoming Business Council

DATE SUBMITTED: July 20, 2020

DATE FILED WITH
SECRETARY OF STATE: July 20, 2020

NOTE: Under W.S. 16-3-103(b), temporary emergency rules are valid for not more than 120 days after the date of filing.

SUBJECT: Wyoming Business Relief Program - Chapter 1 - General Provisions; Chapter 2 - Business Interruption Stipend Program; Chapter 3 - Business Relief Stipend Program; Chapter 4 - Coronavirus Mitigation Stipend Program

NATURE OF RULES: Legislative, procedural

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 2020 Spec. Session 1, HEA 001

SUMMARY OF RULES: These rules were promulgated pursuant to the Wyoming Business Relief Programs established during the 2020 Special Session of the Legislature. Each chapter outlines the authority for the rules and establishes that the purpose of the rules is to provide a regulatory framework for the issuance of stipends to Wyoming businesses adversely affected by COVID-19. Chapter 1: General Provisions provides definitions and requires applicants to certify compliance with all applicable state and local public health orders.

Chapter 2: Business Interruption Stipend Program clarifies what businesses are eligible, and that receipt of stipends does not disqualify a business from other COVID-19 related relief programs. It outlines the application process, and the priority system for granting stipends. The reward amount is to reimburse businesses for the cost of business interruption and the amount is capped at \$50,000.00. Applications are received on a rolling basis. Applicants certify the veracity of the application. The Wyoming Business Council (WBC) staff may conduct and contract for random audits of businesses receiving awards.

Chapter 3: Business Relief Stipend Program clarifies what non-profits are eligible and specifies that eligible businesses required to close may apply for a closure stipend and further specifies what businesses were required to close. It outlines the application process, specifies the eligible expenditures and expenses, and specifies the formula used to calculate the supplemental closure stipend program reward amount which is capped at \$300,000.00. It outlines the review and appeal process, requires certification by the applicant, and allows the WBC to conduct audits.

Chapter 4: Coronavirus Mitigation Stipend Program specifies the eligible applicants, outlines the application process, and clarifies that awards under this chapter are intended to reimburse COVID-related expenses actually incurred between March 1 and December 1, 2020. The award is capped at \$500,000.00. It further outlines the review and application process including appeals, requires certification, and allows the WBC to conduct audits.

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